



## INVESTOR ALLIANCE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

AN ICCR INITIATIVE

The Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR) is convening the Investor Alliance for Human Rights to provide a collective action platform that will consolidate and increase investor influence on key business and human rights issues. This new network builds on longstanding ICCR member efforts on human rights to broaden participation among investors in human rights engagements; provide strategic, focused opportunities for action; and maximize the collective impact of the global investment community on business and human rights.

### The Need

Given the range of current threats to human rights domestically and globally, coordinated action is needed to press companies —both leaders and laggards— to uphold their responsibility to respect human rights, and to stand up against policy and regulatory rollbacks that would threaten progress on business and human rights.

### Four key roles for the network

- Collective Action Platform: The Alliance will convene, inform, and activate the investment community to make a timely business case to both corporate decision-makers and policy-makers on urgent human rights issues. This will include a “rapid response” function to ensure that the investor voice is clearly heard in the face of threats to human rights. The Alliance will provide a platform to help investors prioritize current human rights risks and help strengthen the business case on a range of human rights issues requiring action.
- Coordination with key stakeholders: The Alliance will build and foster partnerships to coordinate with relevant stakeholders as we undertake our investor engagements, including human rights NGOs, community-based organizations, faith groups, academics, labor unions, leading companies, trade associations, international institutions and others. This will ensure a cohesive approach to addressing human rights issues and will maximize our collective impact, while surfacing gaps where more concerted action is needed.
- Support integration of human rights criteria into investment decision-making: As the investor community continues to expand and deepen its attention to ESG integration, the Alliance will provide thought leadership, skill development, and resources to help asset owners and asset

managers more effectively integrate human rights and social criteria into their investment strategies including corporate engagement, proxy voting, and buy-sell decisions.

- Expand investor reach and increase influence: The Alliance will outreach to institutional investors beyond the traditional SRI community to encourage their participation in human rights advocacy. Through education, coordination and targeted action, this expanded network will increase investor capacity and leverage on human rights risks across sectors and throughout supply chains.

### **Why ICCR?**

Since ICCR's inception in 1971, when it first convened faith-based investors in response to human rights violations in apartheid South Africa, ICCR members have been pioneers in shareholder advocacy on corporate human rights risks. ICCR has always viewed its engagement work through the prism of human rights with a focus on the community impacts of corporate practices, and ICCR members are recognized leaders on social ("S") topics within ESG engagements.

### **Who can join the Alliance?**

Participation in the Alliance is open to all members of the global investment community, including major asset owners and asset managers - private, public and faith-based.

### **What is the value in joining the Alliance?**

- Multiple opportunities to participate in investor actions to address human rights risks.
- Increased influence and impact through broad collaborations.
- Understand and manage exposure to human rights risks in investment portfolios.
- Regular updates and guidance regarding investor tools and strategies for more effective human rights engagements.
- Opportunity to help shape strategies and priorities for investor action on human rights.
- Partnership with investors with long-term experience addressing human rights issues.

### **What does joining the Alliance entail?**

- Alliance members will have the opportunity to participate in a range of investor actions to advance progress on business and human rights including investor letters and statements, corporate engagements, and participation in multi-stakeholder discussions with business, NGO and civil society groups.
- Actions by the Alliance will only be undertaken in the name of those investors that have explicitly agreed to sign on and/or participate in specific actions.
- There is no fee to participate in the Alliance.
- The list of investors that join the Alliance will be publicly posted on the [Alliance webpage](#).
- Participation in some level of activity is expected of all Alliance members.

### **How will the Alliance be staffed and governed?**

ICCR will staff the Alliance and take the lead in coordinating a Steering Committee composed of a representative group of investors who will help guide Alliance activities and strategy-setting.

To join the Investor Alliance for Human Rights, [please visit this link](#) and for more information, please contact David Schilling, [dschilling@iccr.org](mailto:dschilling@iccr.org)